(b) The latest estimated cost of the project as per 1.4.95 rates is Rs. 80.3 crores out of which an expenditure of Rs. 75.8 crores has been incurred upto 8/96.

(c) to (f). The dam breached once on 13.9.92 on its right flank during construction. The U.P. Government vide O.M. dated 17.9.92 constituted a Committee to investigate the reasons for breach of the dam. On recommendations of the Committee action has been initiated by the State Government against 5 officers and 6 officials by giving them charge sheets.

(g) The project is expected to be completed by March, 1997 excluding the Charkhari Pump Canal which is expected to be completed by March, 1988.

[English]

Population Affected by Diseases

2404. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether higher percentage of population of several States is in the grip of serious diseases and malnutrition; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such serious diseases and malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The problem of infectious diseases and other serious diseases continue to be a matter of serious concern. The spectrum of these diseases is expanding with the occurence of new diseases and re-emergence of those which were once thought to have been eliminated. According to National Family Health Survey, 1992-93 about 53.4% of the population were mal-nourished. National Instt. of Nutrition have also reported that about 50% of the rural population were affected by chronic energy deficiency in 1993.

(b) National disease control programmes on Malaria, Kala-azar, T.B., Leprosy, Cancer etc., are in operation for the control of serious diseases. In addition, a National Apical Advisory Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Health Secretary to formulate a nation wide disease surveillance network. The action points envisaged under the disease surveillance scheme are collection and flow of information, strengthening of laboratory diagnostic services, networking of centres and continuous monitoring of disease prevalence.

The Govt. of India has been implementing various Nutritional Programmes to improve the nutritional status of population. The Programmes are :

I. **Supplementary Feeding Programmes :**

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

(ii) Mid-day Meal Programme

(iii) Supplementary Nutrition Programme.

(iv) Balwadi Nutrition Programme.

(v) Wheat Based Nutrition Programme.

II. **Programmes for combating specific micro-nutrient deficiency diseases :**

(i) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme.

(ii) Programme to prevent Vitamin 'A' deficiency.

(iii) Programme to prevent Nutritional Anaemia due to Iron Deficiency.

(iv) Pilot Programme Against Micro-nutrient Malnutrition.

Nutrition Education Programmes are also carried out to bring nutritional awareness among the population. Other measures include (a) provision of essential food-grains at subsidised cost through Public Distribution System and (b) improving the purchasing power of the people through income generation schemes.

[Translation]

Election to Non-Permanent Seat in UN Security Council

2405. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA
SHRI JASWANT SINGH
SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any exercise was undertaken by the Government to assess the voting pattern before the election to the non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps that had been taken as a result of the assessment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I K GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Government took all measures to project India's case and to ascertain the responses of other countries. While a number of indications of support were received, the election was conducted through secret ballot and voting intentions in many cases were not fully disclosed. It was decided to continue with the contest as that demonstrated belief in our credentials and the will to pursue them.